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N THE DESCRIPTION

Please replace the Section entitled "Brief Description of the Drawings" with the following text:

Brief Description of the Drawings

The invention will be better understood from the following embodiment description of a carrier scale internetworking (CSI) system together with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a service view of a CSI system;

Figure 2 is a combined service-architectural view of a CSI system;

Figure 3 illustrates control and data traffic for Internet service;

Figure 4 illustrates control and data traffic for a virtual private network (VPN);

Figure 5 shows one implementation of a Packet Internetworking Processing Engine (PIPE) also known as an Internetworking Service Card (ISC) on a multi-services switch such as a Newbridge 36170;

Figure 6 illustrates a CSI management model;

Figure 7 is a diagram of traffic and control flow to and from a PIPE;

Figure 8 illustrates a simplified CSI system;

Figure 9 shows a network layer forwarding mechanism; and

Figure 10 illustrates various components which in combination constitute a CSI system framework; and

Figure 11 is a flowchart of a method of forwarding packets according to one embodiment of the invention.